I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 2, 2005

Signature: XIII BullegL (Linda Burleigh) Docket No.: 297912001602

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Peter L. HARRIS et al.

Application No.: 10/603,952

Filed: June 25, 2003

For: VASCULAR PROSTHESIS

Confirmation No.:

Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: K. R. Landrem

AMENDMENT

MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). The RCE and Amendment are submitted following receipt of a final Office Action dated October 18, 2004, for which a reply is due January 18, 2005. Accordingly, this reply is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification are begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.